



MONTGOMERY COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

Kenita Barrow
Chair

Mark L. Greenblatt
Vice Chair

March 12, 2014

Waiver 14-03-001

Pursuant to § 19A-12(b)(1)(B) of the Public Ethics Law, a public employee must not be employed by a business that negotiates or contracts with the County agency with which the public employee is affiliated, unless the Ethics Commission grants a waiver.

Pascale M. Caballero is an Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant/Therapist II working at the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Early Childhood Services Division. She requests a waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b)(1)(B) so that she may be employed as a Clinical Child/Adolescent Therapist at Aspire Counseling/CCAS.

Aspire Counseling/CCAS contracts with DHHS with respect to the Department's Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, Community Cares, Positive Aging Project, and Facing the Challenge initiatives. Ms. Caballero does not work for or have any involvement with these DHHS programs at DHHS nor would she have any connection with these programs in her employment at Aspire Counseling/CCAS. Neither her County employment nor her outside employment involve contract monitoring; nor is her outside employment funded at all by DHHS contracts. The Department's contract with Aspire Counseling/CCAS in no way relates to Ms. Caballero's work with her outside employment. Additionally, Ms. Caballero states that she will not make any referral to her outside employer in accordance with departmental policy.

Pursuant to § 19A-8(b)(3) of the Public Ethics Law, the Ethics Commission may grant a waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b) if the Ethics Commission concludes that the proposed employment is not likely to create an actual conflict of interest. Upon a review of the request and the Department's concurrence in and support for the waiver request, the Commission finds that there is no actual conflict of interest. Pursuant to the standard of § 19A-8(b)(3), the Commission grants the waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b).

Montgomery County Ethics Commission

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In reaching this decision, the Commission has relied upon the facts as presented by Ms. Caballero.

For the Commission:



Kenita V. Barrow, Chair